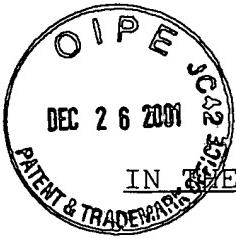


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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

#5

In re Application of)
Steward et al.) Examiner: Not Yet Assigned
)
Serial No.: 09/942,098) Group Art Unit: 1645
)
Filed: August 28, 2001) I hereby certify that this correspondence
) is being deposited with the United States
) Postal Service as first class mail in an
) envelope addressed to: Commissioner for
) Patents, Washington, D.C., 20231, on
) December 12, 2001.
)

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

By Andrea L. Gashler
Andrea L. Gashler, Reg. No. 41,029

December 12, 2001

Date of Signature

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97, enclosed are references relating to the above-identified application. For the convenience of the Examiner, these references are listed on the attached Form PTO-1449, and a copy of each is enclosed herewith.

It is respectfully requested that these references be considered in the examination of this application and that their consideration be made of written record in the application file.

No fee is deemed necessary in connection with the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. However, if any fee is required, authorization is hereby given to charge the amount of any such fee to Deposit Account No. 03-0370.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: December 12, 2001

Andrea L. Gashler

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